

Training

Training involves LEARNING, and learning can be accomplished in many different ways and the information learned may come from many different sources. We have already talked in previous columns about the CVA Training Staff and the great job they do to give new student pilots the best in “hands-on” flying experience. We have also talked about flying field etiquette, about care in the building and preparation of aircraft, about the use of lists and about other topics germane to learning to fly safely and without destroying too much hardware. But, the number of topics the Training Staff can teach at the field, and the amount of material we can cover in a column like this is limited. What else can the student pilot (or any pilot) do to learn more and better understand various aspects of the hobby?

Well, do you remember when your parents and teachers urged you to READ?? We didn't care for it much as kids, did we? But, now it is different. We don't have to read stuff we don't like, and we don't have to do a book report! We can read things directly related to our hobby and have fun doing it. And, most importantly, we can learn, all by ourselves. We can learn far more about our hobby than people could ever tell us verbally. And, there is written material directly aimed at helping us learn about the model airplane hobby! Its ready to use, and using it is fun!!

What I am talking about here is **magazines!** Almost anything you could want to learn about our hobby is covered, at one time or another, by one or more of the popular RC publications. We couldn't even begin to make a list here of even just the types of things you can learn from them. There is virtually an endless supply of information in the articles, pictures, columns and even (or especially) the advertisements.

I often find myself reading one issue of a magazine three or four times! The first cut is to find and read items of particular interest to me such as technical information on engines or radios, or perhaps servos. In that reading I also look for the articles that focus on how to perform a particular aerobatic or flight maneuver and reviews of airplanes of particular interest. The second time I tend to get into the columns and the technical articles that are not of immediate concern to me. Usually I find that those columns and articles are much more interesting and informative than I imagined, and even if I don't have an immediate need for the information, I can file it away for future use. The third and perhaps fourth readings tend to focus almost totally on the advertisements. There is so much you can learn from them that you can spend many hours checking out what is available and what is new.

Also, don't discount the value of old issues of magazines. There is much that does not change and reading a five-year-old article is just fine. Remember that CVA always has lots of old issues available for the asking.

We could talk more about the value of magazines, but we've already said enough, and so....

Remember to try something new each time you fly!

Steve Klute
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